

HONORING TERRY MEEHAN

**HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2001*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Terry Meehan for being named "Realtor of the Year" by the Fresno Association of Realtors for the year 2000. The "Realtor of the Year" is awarded to an individual who promotes the professionalism of the Fresno Association of Realtors and has made available the programs and services that allow members to conduct their business with integrity and competency.

Ms. Meehan led the Fresno Association of Realtors and Fresno Multiple Listing Service into the future with an Internet based M.L.S. system allowing realtors to use the latest technology for their clients.

Terry is a graduate of Cal State Fullerton and holds the two highest real estate designations: Graduate of the Realtor Institute and Certified Residential Specialist.

Terry has been a full-time real estate broker for over 20 years in Fresno and Clovis, CA. She specializes in residential real estate sales and serves as relocation director at Realty Concepts.

She is currently the Fresno Association of Realtors M.L.S. chairperson and serves as a State Director for the California Association of Realtors.

Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate Terry Meehan for being named "Realtor of the Year" by the Fresno Association of Realtors. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing Ms. Meehan many more years of continued success.

# INTRODUCING THE NATURAL GAS RESERVE ACT OF 2001

**HON. TONY P. HALL**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2001*

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing legislation titled the Natural Gas Reserve Act of 2001, to create a natural gas reserve to help stabilize the supply and price of natural gas. This reserve will be modeled after the Strategic Petroleum Reserve and the Northeast Home Heating Oil Reserve.

Natural gas prices have risen sharply this winter because of low supplies and increased demand. This in turn has caused hardship for many families in the Dayton area and across the country who are receiving significantly increased utility bills.

A natural gas reserve is part of the long-term solution to the current low supplies and high prices of natural gas. A reserve would enable the federal government to buy when supplies are cheap and plentiful, and make it available during times of shortages. I believe if the United States had such a reserve today, natural gas prices would be lower.

Supplies are at a historic low, in part because of the new gas-fired electric power generators which many utilities are now using, and because of the unexpected cold weather. The Energy Information Administration projects that in March 2001, U.S. natural gas

in storage will be 40 percent below the last 5-year average.

The national gas reserve could be drawn down when there is a supply shortage such as one we are now experiencing. This release of additional natural gas into the market will help keep prices down.

Under this legislation, the Secretary of Energy would determine the size of the natural gas reserve. The Secretary would be authorized to sell oil from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve to cover the administration and acquisition costs of the reserve, and Congress could appropriate additional funds as well.

The Natural Gas Reserve Act of 2001 is an insurance policy for American consumers because it will provide relief during national shortages. I would urge my colleagues to pass this important piece of legislation.

# INTRODUCTION OF H. CON. RES. 13, A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE VICTIMS OF THE EARTHQUAKE IN INDIA

**HON. JIM McDERMOTT**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2001*

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a concurrent resolution expressing sympathy for the victims of the recent earthquake in the Indian state of Gujarat.

It is with a heavy heart that my colleagues and India Caucus co-chairman, ED ROYCE, and I have introduced this bill. Early on India's Republic Day, January 26th, a strong earthquake, registering 7.9 on the Richter scale, ripped through the industrial state of Gujarat. Early estimates indicated that this was a particularly bad earthquake, but I doubt that anyone could have thought that it would turn out to be the most devastating natural disaster in India for several centuries. Several high ranking Government of India officials have already said that the death toll may rise above 100,000.

The resolution that we have introduced simply expresses our sympathies for the victims and supports the continued relief efforts. The physical destruction in Gujarat will not be erased for many years, and the psychological scars may never be eliminated. It is in this time of tragedy that we must stand by our friend India and the Indian people and offer all we can to aid their efforts.

In recent years, we have grown increasingly closer to India and the Indian people because of common interests and values, as well as a strong Indian-American community who have made an amazing impact on our nation in the past several decades. It has been this community that has come together to truly lead the American people's response to this natural disaster, and I wish to thank them for that. Indian has become a trading partner, a strategic partner in various international issues, and a true partner for stability and democracy in Asia. I truly hope that our token of support is received by India and the people of India with our deepest sympathies.

This resolution has strong support on both sides of the aisle as well as both bodies of Congress. I am happy that this body will quickly pass this resolution. I urge my colleagues to voice their strong support of the

resolution, and by doing so, voice their support for the people of Gujarat.

# HARRY WAYNE CASEY'S FIFTIETH BIRTHDAY

**HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2001*

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Harry Wayne Casey of KC & the Sunshine Band on his fiftieth birthday, January 31, 2001. KC's music has not only enhanced the cultural vibrance of the Miami community, but has become an important part of 20th century American music.

During the course of his remarkably successful career, KC has made a profound impact on popular music as we appreciate it today. His influence helped to shape an entire decade of music; one which has continued to excite fans and earn critical acclaim for the past twenty years.

A native of Hialeah, Florida, KC began his career at age 17 when he began working at Miami's T.K. Records/Studios. By 1973 he had formed the Sunshine Band and embarked upon his meteoric rise to stardom. The Band's second album, released in 1975, went triple platinum and third album, released in 1977, also went triple platinum. KC & The Sunshine Band had amassed an amazing nine Grammy nominations, three Grammy Awards, an American Music Award, four number one singles in the span of one year, and nine Top 10 singles.

KC has maintained an active philanthropic presence in South Florida where he continues to give back to his community. His many charitable acts include the purchase of thousands of Thanksgiving and Christmas dinners for poor families in the Miami area and regular guest appearances on Radio Y100 in Miami to support child abuse prevention. In addition, he performed in a major benefit concert for the victims of Hurricane Andrew in 1992.

I am proud to recognize KC for his outstanding contributions to our community and to our nation's rich music history. I join his family and friends in honoring him on this very special occasion. My best wishes for a wonderful birthday and many more to come.

## HONORING ROBERTO PEREZ

**HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 30, 2001*

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Roberto Perez for his years of dedicated service to the community.

Roberto grew up in Atwater, CA and graduated from Atwater High School in 1973. He studied accounting and business administration at Merced Junior College. After college, he served for six years as a security specialist in the U.S. Air Force. After leaving the military, Roberto became secretary and financial officer for his family's business working alongside his father, Joe Perez, owner of the Atwater Tile Company and La Nita's Restaurants.